

JOURNAL

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Wednesday - 5 February 1975

[REDACTED]

J. Robert Vastine, Minority Counsel, Senate Government Operations Committee, called to get my thoughts on a draft bill to be introduced by Senator William Proxmire (D., Wis.) and who is seeking Senator Charles Percy (R., Ill.) as a co-sponsor which would subject the Agency funds, including unvouchered funds, to a GAO audit. I told him, of course, I could not speak for the Agency and suggested some modifications which would require GAO to audit vouchered funds, a practice which has been suspended and perhaps to review the bottom line of the Director's certificate on unvouchered funds to get an idea on the total amount expended for reporting to existing oversight committees only. We discussed inconclusively whether the words "financial transactions" would achieve this limited result and I said I doubted it. I said that the dilemma posed by any additional audit would be to second guess discretion imposed solely in the Director whether expenditures are extraordinary, confidential or emergency nature and the problem of protecting intelligence sources and methods.

2. [REDACTED] On behalf of the General Counsel, called Guy McConnell, Senate Appropriations Committee staff, and asked if he could provide us a copy of the Comptroller General's response to Senator William Proxmire's (D., Wis.) query on the legality of certain Agency activities. McConnell has a copy but is not authorized to release it until the Senator drops his bill in the hopper. McConnell explained that the GAO document was a summary dated May 10, 1974, #B179296. This information was relayed to [REDACTED] OGC.

3. [REDACTED] Spoke to Charles Lombard, Minority Counsel, Senate Committee on Aeronautical and Space Sciences, who said he would be free to talk with Mr. Cary this afternoon on the question of security procedures for the Senate Select Committee.

4. [REDACTED] Rick Marrow, Democratic Study Group of the House of Representatives, called and in response to his query, I gave him the names of Mr. Cary, [REDACTED] and myself as possible points of contact and explained we had some other officers in the office whose identity I did not volunteer.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]